

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 PM-07

NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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DRAFTED BY EA/VN:RHWENZEL:AOA

APPROVED BY EA:M. STEARNS

EA/R-MR. ROSEN (SUBST.)

S/S-MR. GAMMON

WH- GEN. SCOWCROFT

DOD/ISA-DR. SHIELDS (SUBST.)

EUR/WE-C. MAGEE (SUBST.)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

USDEL JEC PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 245616

TOSEC 218, ZFF AMMAN ONLY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJECT: ATTACK ON FPJMT HELICOPTERS

REQUEST YOU DELIVER FOLLOWING NOTE TO DRV EMBASSY (WORKING
LEVEL) AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY:

BEGIN TEXT: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM AND
HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR
AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIET-NAM OF JANUARY 27, 1973.

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ON DECEMBER 15, 1973 , COMMUNIST FORCES ATTACKED THREE UNARMED HELICOPTERS OF THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM (FPJMT) IN BINH CHANH DISTRICT, GIA-DINH PROVINCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. THIS ATTACK RESULTED IN THE DESTRUCTION OF ONE HELICOPTER, THE DEATH OF ONE AMERICAN AND ONE VIETNAMESE AND THE WOUNDING OF SEVERAL AMERICANS AND VIETNAMESE IN THE PARTY. THESE HELICOPTERS AND PERSONNEL WERE ENGAGED IN THE SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSONNEL, A HUMANITARIAN MISSION SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY THE AGREEMENT. THE HELICOPTERS WERE CLEARLY MARKED IN ORANGE, THE COLOR DESIGNATING THEM AS FPJMT VEHICLES. AS IS CUSTOMARY, THE COMMUNIST SIDE HAD BEEN NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE OF THE DETAILS OF THIS SEARCH MISSION AND HAD BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

THE UNITED STATES CONDEMNS IN STRONGEST TERMS THIS UNPROVOKED ACT BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE AND DEPLORES THE UNNECESSARY LOSS OF LIFE WHICH HAS RESULTED. THE UNITED STATES IS GRAVELY CONCERNED OVER THIS LATEST CONTEMPTIBLE VIOLATION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE. THE UNITED STATES NOTES THAT THE COMMUNIST SIDE HAS CONSISTENTLY ADOPTED A CALLOUS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT THAT CALL FOR A FULL ACCOUNTING OF THE MISSING-IN-ACTION. NOW, NOT CONTENT WITH OBSTRUCTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE PROVISIONS THROUGH ITS INDIFFERENCE AND TOTAL LACK OF COOPERATION, THE COMMUNIST SIDE HAS AGAIN RESORTED TO CRIMINAL ACTS TO PREVENT THEIR IMPLEMENTATION.

THE UNITED STATES URGES THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM TO PROMPTLY IDENTIFY AND PUNISH THOSE ON ITS SIDE WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEPLORABLE ATTACK IN GIA DINH. BEYOND THAT, THE UNITED STATES ONCE AGAIN CALLS ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM TO FULFILL ITS UNDERTAKINGS AS SPECIFIED IN THE AGREEMENT AND TO DEMONSTRATE IN REAL TERMS ITS COOPERATION IN ACCOUNTING FOR THE MISSING-IN-ACTION. THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM WILL RECOGNIZE CLEARLY THE GRAVE RESPONSIBILITIES IT HAS IN THIS MATTER. END TEXT.

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: MARR, VS
To: PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005